

VERMONT NEWS

A Grosbeak Tale from Benson.

Without doubt one of the greatest mysteries that baffled the authorities of Rutland county over 50 years ago was just how George P. Norton and son, were returning from the wilds of the north, near Lake Champlain, after a day's hunt, says the Plattsburg Press, they discovered in a thickly wooded section on the side of a mountain a small cave.

Its peculiar condition aroused the curiosity of Norton, who immediately made an investigation. Using a lantern, they made their way into the cave. They had gone less than 100 feet in the side of the mountain when they came upon the remains of a skeleton. A pair of handcuffs were tightly clasped about the wrists, a chain attached to a post nearby evidently had been fastened to the handcuffs, a gold watch with a small lock on the back was attached to the chain. In the pocket was a small diary, and the inscription: "Matilda Moss, 1857."

Now it will be remembered by many of the older inhabitants that a family by the name kept the old red tavern on the turnpike near what is now called the bridge. This tavern was very large, the third floor being used entirely as a dance hall. During the winter months, dances were held nearly every night. Many a light heart and foot danced to the tune of "Money Musk" in this famous old tavern. The last dance was held Christmas night, 1858.

On this particular night, as the story is related by one of the Benson villagers, one of the largest dances ever held in the vicinity was in progress. Matilda Moss, a tall handsome brunette, was the belle of the evening. She was admired for her beauty, and great attention was shown her by a man named Isaac Terrill, of whom John Moss, her husband, became exceedingly jealous. A free-for-all fight ensued which resulted in the breaking up of the dance. That was the last of the dance. A few days later Moss reported that his wife had committed suicide by jumping into the river. The authorities became suspicious and began an investigation. The matter was soon dropped and John Moss fled the country. It is now considered certain that Moss took his wife, after the dance that evening, to this old cave, bound and chained her to this post, and let her slowly starve to death.

State Aid for Libraries.

In order to increase the efficiency of the free public library of Vermont by aiding to place the best books before its citizens, particularly the young and thus giving help to the cause of free public education, the state board of library commissioners has been empowered by the Legislature of 1908 to give assistance annually to those free public libraries which are competent to receive the same. A few days ago the board of library commissioners of the town in which they are located.

In addition to the hundred dollars worth of books which may be given at establishment, section 4 of the new law reads as follows: "Said board may, in its discretion, assist free public libraries as follows: If a town whose grand list inclusive of polls does not exceed ten thousand dollars, through its library trustees satisfies the said board that it has a free public library or libraries, which are doing practical and efficient work for the public benefit and are rendering useful assistance to the public schools of such town, the board may expend the amounts at such times as they may determine, not exceeding one hundred dollars annually, for the purchase of books for such free public library or libraries owned and controlled by such town. The total amount expended by said board of library commissioners, under this section, shall not exceed one thousand dollars for a year."

To carry this provision into effect the state board of library commissioners has adopted rules that will insure assistance to each free public library which satisfies the board that it is making itself useful in the public schools and to the different sections of the town where it is located.

Further particulars may be had of any member of the board or its secretary: Mr. M. Wilson, Randolph; Mrs. W. P. Smith, St. Johnsbury; Mrs. C. M. Winslow, Brandon; E. M. Goddard, Montpelier; Miss Fannie B. Fletcher, Proctorsville; Miss Frances Hobart, Cambridge, secretary.

Woodstock School Troubles.

Trouble between the school board and high school principal at Woodstock, was caused when Mr. Wiggins expelled Philip Ransom for impudence, and considerable feeling resulted. An agreement was made that the boy should return to school at the beginning of next term. Then a change was made in the school board and the new board voted that Ransom resume his studies March 15. The action was taken apparently without consulting Mr. Wiggins and when he learned of what had been done, he promptly handed in his resignation. A citizens meeting was held and a committee was appointed to confer with the members of the school board and the result was a vote to reconsider their action. L. H. Morgan, a new member of the board, said that he did not before understand that the old board had once unanimously agreed to support Principal Wiggins in the case of the Ransom boy, otherwise he would not have cast his vote that precipitated the trouble. The Ransom boy will be reinstated next term.

A Pensioner of 1812.

Mrs. Adeline Currier, who died at Richford, March 12, was a pensioner of the War of 1812 and probably the only one in this part of the state. She was born in the year 1812, but married a veteran of that war who was fifteen years older than herself, being his second wife. Her husband served at Fort Constitution, Portsmouth, N. H., without pay, and when the war closed walked with some comrades to their home in Richford, N. H., not having the price of a ride, begging food on the way and sleeping in barns. During the Civil War, Mrs. Currier's son-in-law, Capt. J. N. Culver, was at Portsmouth for a time on detached service and at the time of the War with Spain, Leon E. Young, the husband of a granddaughter, was serving as a clerk in the Portsmouth navy yard. On her mother's side Mrs. Currier had a grandfather who died

at the age of 99, and a grandmother who died when 94 years old. On her father's side an aunt lived to be 99 years and seven months old. This taken with Mrs. Currier's age, only seventeen days short of 97 years, constitutes a remarkable record in longevity.

Bank Returns.
The returns to the saving banks and trust companies in Vermont have been made to the State treasurer. The returns indicate that the taxes for the business done by the savings bank in the six months ending December 13, 1908, will be \$144,376.40, against \$142,478.92 in the six months ending June 30, 1908, while the trust companies have made returns for \$71,105.95, against \$66,646.13 for the six months ending June 30, 1908. The total amount paid to the treasurer for the year of 1908 by the savings banks will be \$215,482.35, while the Trust companies will pay \$209,125.50. The total amount of taxes paid in 1908 by the savings banks is \$424,607.40 while the trust companies have paid \$402,479.76.

There are 22 savings banks and 26 trust companies making a total of 48 state banks which paid taxes last year. The Northfield Trust company commenced business March 1st, making a total of 49 state banks at the present time.

Optometry Examining Board.
On May 12, 1909 a meeting of the Vermont Board of Examiners in Optometry will be held at the Brooks House, Brattleboro, for the purpose of taking action upon the applications for exemption certificates. On June 16 and 17 the board will meet in Montpelier for the purpose of examining all eligible applicants desiring to practice the practice of optometry in the state, under restrictions of the law of January 9, 1909. No person not a holder of a certificate of registration or exemption, duly issued and recorded, shall, after the 1st day of July, 1909, practice optometry within this state. It is especially requested by the board that all applications for exemption certificates be properly filled out, verified and promptly returned to the secretary before May 12, thus avoiding delay and additional expense of another meeting. Application blanks for exemption or examination can be obtained from A. S. Haskins, secretary, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Washington's New Judge of Probate.

Gov. H. Prouty has appointed Frank J. Martin of Barre to be judge of probate for the district of Washington to fill out the unexpired term of Hiram Carleton, deceased, or until December 1, 1910. This appointment was not unexpected as it was generally understood that the choice lay between Judge Martin and F. P. Carleton of Montpelier, son of the deceased judge. Mr. Martin studied law with the Hon. Frank Plummer of Northfield and with Hiram A. Huse of Montpelier. He was admitted to the bar in October, 1890, and since that time has been in active practice in Barre. This office carries with it a salary of \$1,400 a year. Judge Martin will at once enter upon the discharge of the duties of the office which have been conducted since Judge Carleton's death by M. E. Smith, clerk of Washington county court.

Look Out for Silk Swindlers.

Two men representing themselves to be advertisers for the Novelty Silk Co., Portland, Me., approached E. A. Thomas of Randolph the other day with a plausible offer to him to become agent for their goods but a man who had seen in the newspapers that some men representing themselves to be silk agents had proved fakirs called Mr. Thomas' attention to the matter with the result that the latter telephoned to Portland and learned that no such firm had headquarters in that city. Judge Martin, however, questioned them had no reasons to give for their act, and immediately left town, not putting in their time at Bethel, where they had a sale advertised. Similar agents have swindled parties in Charleston and Island Pond and tried to work Newport.

New Secret Order.

A branch of the Order of the Grotto, a secret society new to Vermont, will be organized in Rutland in the near future. About 25 men have already agreed to join and it is expected that Supreme Monarch McGregory, who is a professor at Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y., will initiate the veiled knights. The charter given Rutland will have jurisdiction over the entire state. The Grotto bears about the same relation to masonry as the Mystic Shrine does to the Knights Templar and the 32 degree Masons.

Judge Miles Lectures Jurymen.

A little sensation was caused in Orleans county court at Newport Thursday by the discovery that two jurors had been talking with a third party about a forest fire in Irasburg and comparing it with the fire which destroyed the sugar orchard of John J. Kilby, who is suing Dr. C. L. Erwin for damages. One little point was lacking in the evidence and but for that the case would have been broken. As it was Judge W. W. Miles gave the jury a sound lecture and with the consent of the parties allowed the case to go on.

Deer in Village Street.

An unusually large number of deer has been seen in the vicinity of Enosburg Falls lately, but the climax came last week when a doe weighing about 150 pounds, followed a team into the village and traversed the streets for some time, but was finally chased away by dogs. Later someone reported that a doe answering to the description of this one had fallen from the bridge abutment at West Enosburg and had been killed. The local game warden, Jerome Hathaway, was notified and took charge of the carcass.

A new company of the Vermont National Guard was mustered in at Woodstock Thursday evening with 52 members. The company will be Company G, 1st Vt. Inf. The officers of the new company, which takes the place of the one disbanded at Bradford, are: Captain, E. A. Spear; first lieutenant, J. S. Brownell; second lieutenant, Karl A. Pender.

A new grand stand is to be built on the grounds at Morrisville this spring by the Lamotte Valley Fair Ground Co. It will be 192 feet long and will seat 2,000 people.

Aaron P. Youtt was found dead in his room at the Hotel Logan, Middlebury, Wednesday afternoon by Wilbur Hamilton, a fellow boarder. He was 77 years old and was a Civil War veteran.

Lyman Howe of Essex Junction, celebrated his 97th St. Patrick's day by taking an electric car to Burlington.

In Bennington village meeting March 16 Fred C. Martin, a clerk in the office of the Holden-Leonard company mill, defeated George M. Hawkes, son of Bennington's only millionaire, 613 to 215.

The oldest dealers in the Boston market are marvelling over the fowls which have come in from a well known poultry raiser in Burlington. They weigh as much as turkeys, are only a little over a year old, and are very tender, and, with even these points to recommend them, they are selling for 22 cents a pound. These fowls, which are called Black Cochins, weigh from eleven to twelve and one-half pounds, and because turkeys are hard to get just now and are not of very good quality, the demand for the fowls exceeds the supply.

Vermont Division, Sons of Veterans, will hold their department encampment in Burlington, May 12 and 13, in connection with that of the G. A. R. There are 23 camps with 657 members.

Edward J. Morin has been handed the largest lemon ever seen in Burlington. It lacked only one ounce of weighing a pound and was nearly as big in circumference as a musk melon. He did not feel badly about it, however, for it was sent to him by some friends, who are wintering in Florida, as a token of remembrance, rather than what the word lemon signifies.

Miss Mildred, youngest daughter of Congressman Foster, was operated upon for appendicitis, Wednesday, at George Washington University hospital, Washington. The operation was successful, and the result gratifying. The doctors expect the speedy recovery of their patient.

Frank Huard, of Burlington, has a Japanese coin, which is believed to be 600 years old. It was found in a collection of coins which belonged to his grandfather. It is a copper piece about the size of an English half-penny. In the collection are many other coins, among them being an Irish piece which is over 100 years old.

Ferdinand H. Pease of Burlington, who has been private secretary of United States Senator William P. Dillingham, has been promoted to the position of clerk of the Senate committee on immigration, to succeed Paul Dillingham.

Rev. Charles V. Grismer of Plattsburg has been called to become pastor of the Methodist church at Burlington.

Mrs. Nancy E. Puffer, 92 years old, died March 15 at Brattleboro.

Gov. Prouty has pardoned Charles L. Galusha of Bennington and Joseph Mears of Sandgate. Galusha was sentenced in 1907 for two offences of burglary to a maximum of 16 years and a minimum of 15 years at hard labor in the state prison. Mears of Sandgate was sentenced in 1902, for attempting to kill Philander Moffit by mixing poison with his food, and was sentenced to not more than 15 years or less than 12 years of hard labor at the Windsor state prison.

Hon. A. P. Hutton of Bethel, 93 years old, is the oldest member of the Vermont bar, having practiced law for 72 years. He lives with his daughter, Mrs. W. B. C. Stickney.

The Rutland county fair will be held September 1, 2 and 3.

Fair Haven suffered a disastrous fire March 16. The Knight block was destroyed with a property loss of \$60,000 and \$40,000 insurance.

Rev. Aubrey C. Gilmore of Hulls Cove, Me., has accepted the call to become rector of Grace church, Randolph Center, and of St. John's church, Randolph, and will enter upon his rectorship soon after Easter, April 11. He has a wife and one small son.

The stockholders of the National White River Bank at Bethel have voted to reduce the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$50,000. The reason of this reduction is that owing to the large amount of money on deposit in the bank the institution will have ample funds for conducting its business and meeting all local calls with the lesser amount of capital stock.

The Brattleboro Board of Trade held the Women's Club a big spelling match the other night and the individual credit goes to John E. Gale of Guilford, who for a long time was obliged to spell five times as many words as those competing against him. Mrs. Howard C. Rice misspelled "galleried" and Mr. Gale spelled it correctly, thereby winning the principal prize of \$10 in gold. The object of the match, for the civic improvement of Brattleboro, filled the house.

Mrs. Esther Gouchoe, 96 years old, died Friday at Rutland. She was born at Cote de Neige, P. Q., and married in 1831 to Francis X. Gouchoe. She has had 11 children, six of whom are living. She also has 37 grandchildren, 62 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Rev. Dr. A. L. Cooper of Randolph, one of the most widely known Methodist ministers in Vermont, reached his 85th birthday March 15 and the forenoon found him in his accustomed place at the Federated church service. Dr. Cooper has rallied from a slight attack of pneumonia this winter and now appears to have regained much of his strength and oldtime vigor.

Only four states had a lower death rate in 1907 than Vermont.

Good Home Recipe.

Get from any prescription pharmacist the following:

Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces.

Shake well in a bottle and take a tea-spoonful dose after each meal and at bedtime.

The above is considered as the most certain prescription ever written to relieve Backache, Kidney Trouble, Weak Bladder and all forms of Urinary difficulties. This mixture acts promptly on the eliminative tissues of the Kidneys, enabling them to filter and strain the uric acid and other waste matter from the blood which causes Rheumatism.

Some persons who suffer with the afflictions may not feel inclined to place much confidence in this simple mixture, yet those who have tried it say the results are simply surprising, the relief being effected without the slightest injury to the stomach or other organs. Mix some and give it a trial. It certainly comes highly recommended. It is the prescription of an eminent authority, whose entire reputation it is said, was established by it.

A druggist here at home, when asked, stated that he could either supply the ingredients or mix the prescription for our readers, also recommends it as harmless.

Danderine

EVERYBODY CAN HAVE BEAUTIFUL HAIR NOW, and they don't have to wait weeks and months for results either. You will notice marked improvement after the very first application.

Danderine is quickly and thoroughly absorbed by the scalp and the hair soon shows the effects of its wonderfully exhilarating and life-producing qualities. It is pleasant and easy to use—simply apply it to the scalp and hair once a day until the hair begins to grow, then two or three times a week till desired results are obtained.

A lady from California writes in substance as follows: "I have been using your wonderful hair tonic for several months and at last I am now blessed with a wonderful scalp of hair that measures over 8 inches in length; the hair is over 5 inches around."

Another from New Jersey: "After using six bottles I am happy to say that I have as fine a head of hair as anyone in New Jersey."

This Great Hair-Growing Remedy can now be had at all druggists in three sizes, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle.

Free! To show how quickly Danderine acts, we will send a large sample free by return mail to anyone who sends this free coupon to the Danderine Co., Chicago, with their name and address and the tin in silver or stamps to pay postage.

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